

FISCAL NOTE
HB 2197 - SB 2212

January 29, 2004

SUMMARY OF BILL: Provides that any unauthorized individual who carves, writes, paints, marks upon or in any other manner destroys, mutilates, defaces, or mars any bridge, overpass, tunnel, fence, wall, or other public highway structure or building has committed the offense of vandalism. The bill also provides that anyone furnishing information leading to the apprehension and conviction of an individual for such an offense is entitled to a reward of \$100. This reward is to be paid from a dedicated county fund. Such a fund would be constituted from the dedication of fines paid by offenders and collected by court clerks for offenses related to highway vandalism.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant
Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Other Fiscal Impact - Would shift local government funds from the County General Fund to a fund dedicated to vandalism enforcement awards.

Estimate assumes:

- there may be an increase in apprehensions for this type of offense; therefore caseloads for courts may also increase. However, this increase could reasonably be absorbed within existing judicial resources.
- enactment of the bill will result in an increase in local government revenues and expenditures from fines and incarceration for misdemeanor offenses. Such increases and expenditures are not expected to be significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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